

## DEAR LITTLE HANDS.

Dear little hands, I loved them so,  
And now they are lying in the snow—  
The snow, so cold and white,  
Can't see them, or touch them to-night.  
They are quiet when the white, cold snow  
Has laid its fingers on their feet,  
And they can never reach up through the  
snow.

Dear little hands, I loved them so,  
All through the day, when I was young—  
All through the night, how long ago,  
For no little hands make me out of my dream.  
I miss them all through the weary hours,  
Miss them as they sit and stare and stare;  
Day time or night time, whenever I go,  
Dear little hands, I miss them so.

Dear little hands, they have gone from me now,  
Never again will they rest on my brow—  
Never again smooth my sorrowful face,  
Never again smile in a childish embrace.  
And now my forehead grows wrinkled with care,  
Thinking of little hands, once resting there,  
Miss them as they sit and stare and stare;  
Day time or night time, whenever I go,  
Dear little hands, I miss them so.

Dear little hands, when the Master shall call,  
I'll welcome the summons that comes to all—  
When my feet touch the waters so dark and so cold,  
An' I catch the first glimpse of the City of Gold.  
I'll keep my eyes fixed on the heavenly gate,  
Till the life when the white robes are put on me,  
I'll know you, I wonder, among the bright  
hordes.

Will you beckon me over, oh dear little hand,  
—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

## WIT AND FLEASANTRY.

In Washington Congressman Pliny was asked why he drank British ale, and he replied that it was a pleasure sometimes to be able to swallow one's enemy.

An Irish country doctor conversing with a friend about the state of the weather, when prevailing remarks, "Bad, there are people dying who never died before!"

Before offering to ring the street car-bell for a lady about to get off, look closely at her right hand. If she wears a diamond ring and you pull the strap she will be your enemy for life.

"Yes," said the deacon, "our Heavenly Father knows all our little thoughts."  
"Then," replied the deacon, "I must be damned by a deal of worthless information."  
—*Boston Transcript.*

"No," said an old maid, "I don't miss a husband very much. I have trained my dog to growl every time I feed him, and I have just bought a clothing store dummy that I can scold when I feel like it."

"The Sweetheart lamp" is a lamp which serves in many ways. It is a lamp which is so low and it will not smoke and make a noisy and tell-tale smell. And then you can turn it up right away. But what is the matter with gas?

A writer evidently never tried it while writing the poetry of motion. When a pretty female scientist's feet slip from under her and she tries to stand on her head, we acknowledge she often gets up looking the poetry of motion.

The old cynic sat on the back seat of the dummy, watching a young couple beside him who were very tender and devoted. His hand was on his head, his face was close to hers, eyes looked into hers, and she was as happy as a turkey that finds itself alive when the market closes for Thanksgiving.

"Happy," said the cynic, "stirring Nature with a spoon."

The latest invention on the shirt bosom line is a dozen or more of them made of paper and put in the bosom of the shirt. It is a clean shirt front is wanted. It strikes us that such a scheme could be worked successfully on the bosom of boys' trousers. If there were thirty or forty layers of good stout cloth, and behind all that a sheet of black tin or copper, we verily believe that the danger signal which sadly floats in the rear of every small boy's trousers, would be a most effective and saving one week's end to another.

## Easy to Guess.

In one of our Indian languages the word "woman" is rendered "kewawajawaj." Any married man can define the last two syllables at a glance, but the most of them are not aware that "kewawaj" means "lightning."

## A Stickler for Exact Weight.

It is said by a local paper that a market woman in Peoria, Ill., is trying to avoid paying an election bet on a technicality. She was asked to place a pound of butter on a scale, but she declared there was nothing in the pound about weighing her clothes, and declares that he will have to go without them or not at all.

## It Is An Ill Wind.

Divorce lawyer. "My dear, you may have three hundred dollars a week after all."  
His wife. "You dear, delicious old darling! I didn't know that sewing on a few buttons for you would produce such a delightful effect."

Divorce lawyer. "It wasn't the buttons. This morning's paper contains reports of seventeen fashionable weddings."

## The Difference.

The Recluse. "Well, Charbonneau, I hope you like the broth I sent you on Saturday and the sermon I preached on Sunday." Charbonneau. "Thank you kindly, sir! But old folks the broth better if it were more like the sermon, and the sermon if it were more like the broth. You see, sir, the sermon might as well be a bit clearer, as it could a don't wess on it, and the broth were a bit too clear, and could a don't wess on it."

## Who Saw the Most.

Not long ago two gentlemen were conversing, one of whom had a single eye. The other possessed the natural number. The two men met and joined at his friend, who, growing tired of the sport, impatiently cried: "I tell you, I see more than you do." "Dime, and you have lost. With two eyes I, of course, see more than you with one to your credit." "You moment. I see more, really you see not one." He won the wager.

## But This Joke Is Fatal.

It was long after midnight, and the minutes were ticking by like minutes.  
"I love a graceful sin tree," she remarked.  
"How I wish were an elm tree," he responded, quickly.  
"I love you, too."  
"Why do you?" he inquired, with a world of devotion in his voice.  
"Because," she replied, "trees leave once a year, at least."

## Lover's Oath.

"What is that you say? Harry married! Well, I never believe in men again."  
"Why?"  
"The oath of love that man swore to me!"  
"Well, but you threw him over. You've been married three months."  
"I don't care. He was so devoted to me, and when Jack proposed to me and I accepted, Harry declared that he would be true to my memory and mourn me as one dead to him."  
"Well, it's of no consequence to you."  
"He might have been decent about it. He might have gone into mourning for a year, anyhow."

## An Old Story With New Names.

General James L. Brown, of Missouri, a well-known local statesman, called at the Executive Mansion in Albany the other day to live the Governor some pointers about his

Cabinet. While he was waiting in the ante-room he accented a man who had just come into the room and was glancing over a paper.

"I suppose you are here on the same errand that I am," he remarked.  
"I don't know," replied the stranger, pleasantly. "What errand are you on?"  
"I'm going to tell that old chump in there how to fix his cabinet."

"No, I can't say I'm on that errand," "Maybe you ain't a politician?"  
"No," returned the stranger, politely, "I'm the old chump General Brown will not be in the next Cabinet."

A charming young girl accompanied by her octogenarian great-grandmother, who is all the name implies, enters a Paris druggists store.  
"How much is this ribbon?" she asked of the polite young clerk, who has bounded eagerly over several stools to wait upon her.

"A kiss a yard," replies the young man, gallantly.  
"Ten yards, then, Grandmama'll pay you—she always settles the bills when we go shopping."

## On the Mince.

Girl in Blue—"There's a young Mr. Duderst over there don't you think he is just splendid?"  
Girl in red—"Splendid, that man of mine! Why, he took me buggy riding last week and tried to kiss me."

"Well, he put his arms around me and— and, of course, I told him just to behave himself!"  
"Well—be behaved himself!"  
Both—Ugh!

## CURIOUS, USEFUL AND SCIENTIFIC.

Dr. Ogden, of Aberdeen, describes a case of scrofulous fever of the eye.

According to Mr. J. Harrington Doty, of the asylum at Worcester, England, an imperfect supply of oxygen, or simply breathing a vitiated atmosphere, may suffice to produce the mental disorder known as melancholia.

It is maintained by certain astronomers that the apparent diameter of the sun varies periodically, and Dr. J. H. Miller, of Newburgh, contends that the periodicity coincides with that of the sun-spot minimum, and vice versa.

Koch, of Berlin, is reported to have succeeded in producing genuine cholera in guinea pigs by means of a virus which was regarded as the cause of the disease.

Two Swiss physicians, Nicot and Blinck, claim to have met with similar success in this important experiment with Dr. Koch.

Scandinavia, in a state of captivity can, Dr. Rawitz, of Berlin, has discovered, be fed on paper. Dr. Kessel confirms this fact by a statement based on his own observations.

It is said that the first feeling which comes to a man who is confined in a prison is a sense of the fact that he is not a prisoner, but a man who is being treated as a prisoner.

Botanists have evidence that trees may attain a great age. The age of a tree may be estimated at 333 years, that of some palms at from 600 to 700 years; that of an oak tree at 700 years; of a plane tree at 800 years; of a cedar tree at 900 years; of a yew tree at 1,000 years; of a cypress tree at 1,100 years; of a juniper tree at 1,200 years; of a fir tree at 1,300 years; of a spruce tree at 1,400 years; of a larch tree at 1,500 years; of a pine tree at 1,600 years; of a birch tree at 1,700 years; of a poplar tree at 1,800 years; of a willow tree at 1,900 years; of a sycamore tree at 2,000 years; of a maple tree at 2,100 years; of a beech tree at 2,200 years; of a chestnut tree at 2,300 years; of a walnut tree at 2,400 years; of a hickory tree at 2,500 years; of a locust tree at 2,600 years; of a mulberry tree at 2,700 years; of a plum tree at 2,800 years; of a cherry tree at 2,900 years; of a pear tree at 3,000 years; of an apple tree at 3,100 years; of a quince tree at 3,200 years; of a hawthorn tree at 3,300 years; of a dogwood tree at 3,400 years; 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